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MA'INPERNOR. *n. f.* Surety; bail.
He enforced the earl himself to fly, till twenty-six noble-
men became *mainperners* for his appearance at a certain day;
but he making default, the uttermost advantage was taken
against his sureties. *Davies on Ireland.*
MA'INPRISE. *n. f.* [main and pris, French.] Delivery into the
custody of a friend, upon security given for appearance;
bail.
Sir William Bretingham was executed for treason, though
the earl of Desmond was left to *mainprise*. *Davies.*
Give its poor entertainer quarter;
And, by discharge or *mainprise*, grant
Deliv'ry from this base restraint. *Hudibras, p. ii.*
MA'INPRISE. *v. a.* To bail.
MA'INSAIL. *n. f.* [main and sail.] The sail of the main-
mast.
They committed themselves unto the sea, and hoisted up
the *main-sail* to the wind, and made toward shore. *Acts xxvii.*
MA'INSHEET. *n. f.* [main and sheet.] The sheet or sail of the
mainmast.
Strike, strike the top-sail; let the *main-sheet* fly,
And furl your sails. *Dryden.*
MA'INYARD. *n. f.* [main and yard.] The yard of the main-
mast.
With sharp hooks they took hold of the tackling which
held the *main-yard* to the mast, then rowing they cut the
tackling, and brought the *main-yard* by the board. *Arbutnot.*
TO MAINTAIN. *v. a.* [maintenir, French.]
1. To preserve; to keep.
The ingredients being prescribed in their substance, *main-*
tain the blood in a gentle fermentation, reclude opulations,
and mundify it. *Harvey.*
This place, these pledges of your love, *maintain*. *Dryd.*
2. To defend; to hold out; to make good.
God values no man more or less, in placing him high or
low, but every one as he *maintains* his post. *Grew's Cosmol.*
3. To vindicate; to justify.
If any man of quality will *maintain* upon Edward earl of
Gloster, that he is a manifold traitor, let him appear. *Shak.*
These possessions being unlawfully gotten, could not be
maintained by the just and honourable law of England. *Davies.*
Maintain
My right, nor think the name of mother vain. *Dryden.*
Lord Roberts was full of contradiction in his temper, and of
parts so much superior to any in the company, that he could
too well *maintain* and justify those contradictions. *Clarendon.*
It is hard to *maintain* the truth. *South.*
4. To continue; to keep up.
Maintain talk with the duke, that my charity be not of
him perceived. *Shakespeare's King Lear.*
Some did the song, and some the choir *maintain*,
Beneath a laurel shade. *Dryden.*
5. To keep up; to support the expence of.
I seek not to wax great by others waining;
Suffice, that I have *maintains* my state,
And sends the poor well pleased from my gate. *Shaksp.*
What concerns it you if I wear pearl and gold? I thank
my good father I am able to *maintain* it. *Shakespeare.*
6. To support with the conveniences of life.
It was St. Paul's choice to *maintain* himself by his own la-
bour. *Hooker.*
If a woman *maintain* her husband, she is full of anger and
much reproach. *Ecclesiast. xxv. 22.*
It is hard to *maintain* the truth, but much harder to be
maintained by it. Could it ever yet feed, cloath, or defend
its assertors? *South.*
7. To preserve from failure.
Here ten thousand images remain
Without confusion, and their rank *maintain*. *Blackmore.*
TO MAINTAIN. *v. n.* To support by argument; to assert as
a tenet.
In tragedy and satire I *maintain* against some of our mod-
ern critics, that this age and the last have excelled the an-
cients. *Dryden's Juvenal.*
MAINTAINABLE. *adj.* [from maintain.] Defensible; justifiable.
Being made lord lieutenant of Bulloine, the walls fore
beaten and shaken, and scarce *maintainable*, he defended the
place against the dauphin. *Hayward.*
MAINTAINER. *n. f.* [from maintain.] Supporter; cherisher.
He dedicated the work to Sir Philip Sidney, a special
maintainer of all learning.
The *maintainers* and cherishers of a regular devotion, a
true and decent piety. *South's Sermons.*
MAINTENANCE. *n. f.* [maintenant, French.] sustentation.
1. Supply of the necessities of life; sustentance; sustentation.
It was St. Paul's own choice to *maintain* himself by his la-
bour, whereas in living by the churches *maintenance*, as others
did, there had been no offence committed. *Hooker, b. i.*
God assigned Adam *maintenance* of life, and then appoint-
ed him a law to observe. *Hooker, b. i.*

M A K

Those of better fortune not making learning their *main-*
tenance, take degrees with little improvement. *Swift.*
2. Support; protection; defence.
They knew that no man might in reason take upon him
to determine his own right, and according to his own deter-
mination proceed in *maintenance* thereof. *Hooker, b. i.*
The beginning and cause of this ordinance amongst the
Irish was for the defence and *maintenance* of their lands in
their posterity. *Spenser on Ireland.*
3. Continuance; security from failure.
Whatsoever is granted to the church for God's honour,
and the *maintenance* of his service, is granted for and to God.
South's Sermons.
MA'INTOP. *n. f.* [main and top.] The top of the mainmast.
From their *maintop* joyful news they hear
Of ships, which by their mould bring new supplies. *Dryd.*
Dictys could the *maintop*-mast bestride.
And down the ropes with active vigour slide. *Addison.*
MA'JOR. *adj.* [major, Latin.]
1. Greater in number, quantity, or extent.
They bind none, no not though they be many, saving
only when they are the *major* part of a general assembly, and
then their voices being more in number, must overweigh their
judgments who are fewer. *Hooker, b. iv.*
The true meridian is a *major* circle passing through the
poles of the world and the zenith of any place, exactly di-
viding the east from the west. *Brown's Fug. Errors.*
In common discourse we denominate persons and things
according to the *major* part of their character: he is to be
called a wise man who has but few follies. *Watts's Logic.*
2. Greater in dignity.
Fall Greek, fall fame, honour, or go, or stay,
My *major* vow lies here. *Shaksp. Tril. and Cressida.*
MA'JOR. *n. f.*
1. The officer above the captain; the lowest field officer.
2. A mayor or head officer of a town. Obsolete.
3. The first proposition of a syllogism, containing some gen-
erality.
The *major* of our author's argument is to be understood of
the material ingredients of bodies. *Boyle.*
4. *MAJOR-general.* The general officer of the second rank.
Major-general Ravignan returned with the French king's
answer. *Tatler, N. 53.*
5. *MAJOR-damo.* *n. f.* [major-dame, French.] One who holds
occasionally the place of master of the house.
MAJORA'TION. *n. f.* [from major.] Encrease; enlargement.
There be five ways of *majoration* of founts: enclosure sim-
ple; enclosure with dilatation; communication; reflection
concurrent; and approach to the fenory. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*
MAJORITY. *n. f.* [from major.]
1. The state of being greater.
It is not plurality of parts without *majority* of parts that
maketh the total greater. *Grew's Cosmol.*
2. The greater number. [majorité, French.]
It was highly probable the *majority* would be so wise as to
espouse that cause which was most agreeable to the publick
weal, and by that means hinder a sedition. *Addison.*
As in senates so in schools,
Majority of voices rules. *Prior.*
Decent executions keep the world in awe; for that reason
the *majority* of mankind ought to be hanged every year.
Arbutnot's Hist. of J. Ball.
3. [From *maiores*, Latin.] Ancestry.
Of evil parents an evil generation, a posterity not unlike
their *majority*; of mischievous progenitors, a venomous
and destructive progeny. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iii.*
4. Full age; end of minority.
During the infancy of Henry the III, the barons were
troubled in expelling the French: but this prince was no
sooner come to his *majority*, but the barons raised a cruel war
against him. *Davies on Ireland.*
5. First rank. Obsolete.
Douglas, whose high deeds,
Whose hot incursions, and great name in arms,
Holds from all soldiers chief *majority*, justifiable.
And military title capital. *Shaksp. Henry IV.*
6. The office of a major.
MAIZE, or *Indian Wheat.* *n. f.*
The whole *maize* plant has the appearance of a reed; the
male flowers are produced at remote distances from the fruit
on the same plant, growing generally in a spike upon the top
of the stalk; the female flowers are produced from the wings
of the leaves, and are surrounded by three or four leaves,
which closely adhere to the fruit until it is ripe: this plant is
propagated in England only as a curiosity, but in America it
is the principal support of the inhabitants, and consequently
propagated with great care. *Miller.*
Maize affords a very strong nourishment, but more viscous
than wheat. *Arbutnot on Aliments.*
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M A K

TO MAKE. *v. a.* [macan, Saxon; machen, German; maken,
Dutch.]
1. To create.
Let us *make* man in our image. *Gen. i. 26.*
The Lord hath *made* all things for himself. *Prov. xvi. 4.*
Remember't thou
Thy *making*, while the maker gave thee being. *Milton.*
2. To form of materials.
He fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had *made* it a
molten calf. *Exod. xxxii. 4.*
God hath *made* of one blood all nations of men. *Acts.*
We have no other measure, save one of the moon, but
are artificially *made* out of these by compounding or dividing
them. *Holler on Time.*
3. To compose: as, materials or ingredients.
One of my fellows had the speed of him;
Who, almost dead for breath, had scarcely more
Than would *make* up his message. *Shaksp. Macbeth.*
The heav'n, the air, the earth, and boundless sea,
Make but one temple for the deity. *Waller.*
A pint of salt of tartar, exposed unto a moist air, will
make far more liquor than the former measure will contain.
Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. ii.
4. To form by art what is not natural.
There lavish nature, in her best attire,
Pours forth sweet odours, and alluring flights;
And art with her contending, doth aspire
To excel the natural with *made* delights. *Spenser.*
5. To produce as the agent.
She may give so much credit to her own laws, as to *make*
their sentence weightier than any bare and naked conceit to
the contrary. *Hooker, b. v.*
If I suspect without cause, why then *make* sport at me;
then let me be your jest. *Shaksp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*
Thine enemies *make* a tumult. *Psalm. lxxxiii. 2.*
When their hearts were merry they said, Call for Samp-
son, that he may *make* us sport. *Judg. xvi. 25.*
Give unto Solomon a perfect heart to build the palace for
the which I have *made* provision. *1 Chron. xxix. 19.*
Why *make* ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead.
Mark v. 39.
He *maketh* intercession to God against Israel. *Rom. xi. 2.*
Thou hast set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt,
and hast *made* thee a name. *Jer. xxxii. 20.*
Should we then *make* mirth?
Joshua *made* peace, and *made* a league with them to let
them live. *Josh. ix. 15.*
Both combine
To *make* their greatness by the fall of man. *Dryden.*
Egypt, mad with superstition grown,
Makes gods of monsters. *Tate's Juvenal.*
6. To produce as a cause.
Wealth *maketh* many friends; but the poor is separated
from his neighbour. *Prov. xix. 4.*
A man's gift *maketh* room for him, and bringeth him be-
fore great men. *Prov. xviii. 16.*
The child who is taught to believe any occurrence to be a
good or evil omen, or any day of the week lucky, hath a
wide inroad made upon the foundations of his understanding.
Watts.
7. To do; to perform; to practise; to use.
Though the appear honest to me, yet in other places she
enlargeth her mirth so far, that there is shrewd construction
made of her. *Shaksp. Merry Wives of Windsor.*
She *made* haste, and let down her pitcher. *Gen. xxiv. 46.*
Thou hast *made* an atonement for it. *Exod. xxix. 36.*
I will judge his house for ever, because his sons *made* them-
selves vile, and he restrained them not. *1 Sam. iii. 13.*
We *made* prayer unto our God. *Neh. iv. 9.*
He shall *make* a speedy riddance of all in the land. *Zeph.*
They all began to *make* excuse. *Luke xiv. 18.*
It hath pleased them of Macedonia and Achaia to *make* a
certain contribution for the poor. *Rem. xv. 26.*
Make full proof of thy ministry. *2 Tim. iv. 5.*
The Venetians, provoked by the Turks with divers inju-
ries, both by sea and land, resolved, without delay, to *make*
war likewise upon him. *Kneller's Hist. of the Turks.*
Such mulck as before was never *made*,
But when of old the fons of morning sung. *Milton.*
All the actions of his life were ripped up and surveyed,
and all malicious glosses *made* upon all he had said, and all
he had done. *Clarendon.*
Says Carneades, since neither you nor I love repeti-
tions, I shall not now *make* any of what else was urged against
Themistocles.
The Phœnicians *made* claim to this man as theirs, and
attributed to him the invention of letters. *Hale.*
What hope, O Pantheus! whether can we run?
Where *make* a stand? and what may yet be done? *Dryd.*
While merchants *make* long voyages by sea
To get estates, he cuts a shorter way. *Dryden's Ju-*
To what end did Ulysses *make* that journey? *Jencas un-*

M A K

dertook it by the express commandment of his father's ghost.
Dryden's Dedication to the Æneis
He that will *make* a good use of any part of his life, must
allow a large portion of it to recreation. *Locke.*
Make some request, and I,
Whate'er it be, with that request comply. *Addison.*
Were it permitted, he should *make* the tour of the whole
system of the sun. *Arbutnot and Pope's Mart. Scrib.*
8. To cause to have any quality.
I will *make* your cities waste. *Lev. xxvi. 31.*
Her husband hath utterly *made* them void on the day he
heard them. *Num. xxx. 12.*
When he had *made* a convenient room, he set it in a wall,
and *made* it fast with iron. *Wisd. xiii. 15.*
Jesus came into Cana, where he *made* the water wine.
John iv. 46.
He was the more inflamed with the desire of battle with
Waller, to *make* even all accounts. *Clarendon, b. viii.*
I bred you up to arms, rais'd you to power,
Permitted you to fight for this usurper;
All to *make* sure the vengeance of this day,
Which even this day has ruin'd. *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*
In respect of actions within the reach of such a power in
him, a man seems as free as it is possible for freedom to *make*
him. *Locke.*
9. To bring into any state or condition.
I have *made* thee a god to Pharaoh. *Exod. vii. 1.*
Joseph *made* ready his chariot, and went up to meet Israel.
Gen. xlv. 29.
Who *made* thee a prince and a judge over us? *Exod. ii.*
Ye have troubled me to *make* me to sink among the inha-
bitants. *Gen. xxxiv. 30.*
He *made* himself of no reputation, and took upon him the
form of a servant. *Phil. ii. 7.*
He should be *made* manifest to Israel. *John i. 31.*
Though I be free from all men, yet have I *made* myself
servant unto all, that I might gain the more. *1 Cor. ix. 19.*
He hath *made* me a by-word of the people, and *made* me
I was as a tablet. *Jer. xlviii. 26.*
Make ye him drunken; for he magnified himself against
the Lord. *Jer. xlviii. 26.*
Joseph was not willing to *make* her a publick example.
Matt. i. 19.
By the assistance of this faculty we have all those ideas in
our understandings, which, though we do not actually con-
template, yet we can bring in sight, and *make* appear again,
and be the objects of our thoughts. *Locke.*
The Lacedemonians trained up their children to hate
drunkenness by bringing a drunken man into their company,
and shewing them what a beast he *made* of himself. *Watts.*
10. To form; to settle.
Those who are wise in courts
Make friendships with the ministers of state,
Nor seek the ruins of a wretched exile. *Rowe.*
11. To hold; to keep.
Deep in a cave the sybil *makes* abode. *Dryden.*
12. To secure from distress; to establish in riches or happiness.
He hath given her his monumental ring, and thinks him-
self *made* in the unchange composition. *Shakespeare.*
This is the night,
That either *makes* me, or foredoes me quite. *Shaksp.*
Each element his dread command obeys,
Who *makes* or ruins with a smile or frown,
Who as by one he did our nation raise,
So now he with another pulls us down. *Dryden.*
13. To suffer; to incur.
The loss was private that I *made*;
'Twas but myself I lost; I lost no legions. *Dryden.*
He accuseth Neptune unjustly, who *makes* shipwreck a se-
cond time. *Bacon.*
14. To commit.
She was in his company at Page's house, and what they
made there I know not. *Shakespeare.*
I will neither plead my age nor sickness in excuse of the
faults which I have *made*. *Dryden.*
15. To compel; to force; to constrain.
That the soul in a sleeping man should be this moment
busy a thinking, and the next moment in a waking man not
remember those thoughts, would need some better proof than
bare assertion to *make* it be believed. *Locke.*
They should be *made* to rise at their early hour; but great
care should be taken in waking them, that it be not done
hastily. *Locke.*
16. To intend; to purpose to do.
He may ask this civil question, friend!
What dost thou *make* a shipboard? to what end? *Dryden.*
Gomez; what *mak'st* thou here with a whole brotherhood
of city-bailiffs? *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*
17. To raise as profit from any thing.
He's in for a commodity of brown pepper; of which he
made five marks ready money. *Shakespeare.*
Did